4. The Agreement provides the roadmap for negotiating a Free Trade Area Agreement with the ASEAN. An ASEAN-India Trade Negotiating Committee shall be established to carry out the programme of negotiations. This would give further impetus to India-ASEAN linkages in trade, investment, services and other areas of economic cooperation, and would facilitate a closer economic partnership between India and ASEAN in the 21st century.

5. The ***Joint Declaration on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism*** envisages cooperation in (i) exchange of information, (ii) legal and enforcement matters, (iii) institutional capacity augmentation, and (iv) training.

6. India's accession to the ***Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia*** signifies India's commitment to work with the ASEAN countries in maintaining regional peace and stability.

Disruption of Diwali Celebration in London

258. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that two Britons were engaged in criminal acts by disrupting Diwali celebrations at the Ram Temple in Ealing Road, London where the local Police have charged them under Section 28 of the Criminal and Disorder Act of 1998;

(b) whether Indian High Commission in London is following up this case so that culprits are punished; and

(c) if so, the status of the case and whether Government propose to pursue the matter with Home Department of UK to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Government is aware of a criminal incident by two British nationals which disrupted the Diwali celebrations at the Ealing Road Sanatan Mandir in London on 25th October 2003. Both have been sentenced for the crime.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Concerns relating to the Indian community in the UK are taken up by our High Commission in London with the relevant British authorities as and when necessary.